

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

(Original) 1. An absorbent article, said article being placeable between the body of a user and undergarments worn by the user, said article comprising:

a liquid pervious top sheet having an upper surface for engaging at least a portion of the body of the user;

a liquid impervious bottom sheet for protecting the undergarments of the user;

an absorbent core provided between said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

a supplemental member defined by a slit cut through said upper surface of said top sheet and to a preselected depth into said absorbent core, said supplemental member having a removed end capable of movement between a retracted position and a projected position wherein said supplemental member extends at least partly above said top sheet of said article.

(Original) 2. The article of claim 1, wherein said supplemental member is located in a central portion of said article.

(Original) 3. The article of claim 1, further comprising an adhesive member for removeably attaching said bottom sheet to the undergarments of the user.

(Original) 4. The article of claim 2, wherein said absorbent core comprises a first section and a second section, said second section located substantially beneath said supplemental member.

(Original) 5. The article of claim 4, wherein said second section comprises an absorbent material capable of (a) compression when said supplemental member is in a retracted position and (b) expansion when said supplemental member is in a projected position.

(Original) 6. The article of claim 1, wherein said supplemental member comprises a substantially cylindrical configuration.

(Original) 7. The article of claim 1, wherein said supplemental member comprises a substantially u-shaped configuration

(New) 8. An absorbent article, said article being placeable between the body of a user and undergarments worn by the user, said article comprising:

a liquid pervious top sheet having an upper surface for engaging at least a portion of the body of the user;

a liquid impervious bottom sheet for protecting the undergarments of the user;

an absorbent core provided between said top sheet and said bottom sheet; and

a supplemental member having a proximate end and a removed end, said proximate end attached to said top sheet, said removed end being capable of movement between a retracted position where said supplemental member is positioned at or beneath said upper surface of said top sheet and a projected position where at least a portion of said supplemental member is positioned above said upper surface of said top sheet.

(New) 9. The article of claim 8, wherein said proximate end of said supplemental member is hingedly attached to said top sheet.

(New) 10. The article of claim 8, wherein said supplemental member is for insertion into the body of the user when in said projected position.

(New) 11. The article of claim 10, wherein said supplemental member is shaped for insertion into the body of the user.